

B² a window having a surface capable of being in a pressure contact relationship with the surface of said tissue sample in which said window is in optical communication with said objective lens; and

a housing capable of being handheld having at least said objective lens and said window.

34. (amended) A system for imaging and diagnosing a tissue sample for pathological applications comprising:

an objective lens;

B³ a window having a surface capable of being in a pressure contact relationship with the surface of said tissue sample;

a housing capable of being handheld having at least said objective lens and said window;

an illumination beam which is focused by said objective lens through said window to said tissue sample, in which said objective lens receives returned light from said tissue sample representing a tissue section; and

means for displaying said tissue section to diagnose abnormalities in said tissue sample.

✓ Please cancel Claim 32 without prejudice.

Remarks

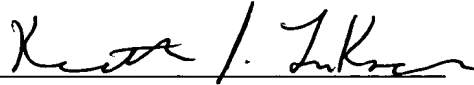
Entry of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

The specification is amended to update the status of a referenced application.

A Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

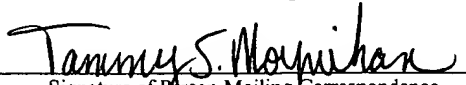
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Appendix

Marked-up version of the specification and claims as presented in the attached Second Preliminary Amendment.

Amended paragraph on page 1 of the specification beginning on line 3, and ending at line 5:

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/001,016 filed December 30, 1997, now [pending] U.S. Patent No. 6,263,233, which is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/650,684 filed May 20, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,788,639, which claims the priority benefit of co-pending provisional application, Serial No. 60/001,141, filed July 13, 1995.

27. (amended) A microscopic imaging apparatus for imaging tissue samples for pathological applications through an objective lens, said apparatus comprising:

an objective lens; [and]

a window having a surface capable of being in a pressure contact relationship with the surface of said tissue sample in which said window is in optical communication with said objective lens; and

a housing capable of being handheld having at least said objective lens and said window.

34. (amended) A system for imaging and diagnosing a tissue sample for pathological applications comprising:

an objective lens;

a window having a surface capable of being in a pressure contact relationship with the surface of said tissue sample;

a housing capable of being handheld having at least said objective lens and said window;

an illumination beam which is focused by said objective lens through said window to said tissue sample, in which said objective lens receives returned light from said tissue sample representing a tissue section; and

means for displaying said tissue section to diagnose abnormalities in said tissue sample.